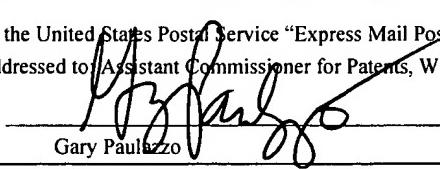


CERTIFICATE OF MAILING BY "EXPRESS MAIL"

Express Mail Label No.: EL569175455US

Date of Deposit: August 25, 2000

I hereby certify that this paper or fee is being deposited with the United States Postal Service "Express Mail Post-Office to Addressee" service under 37 C.F.R. § 1.10 on the date indicated above and is addressed to Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231.


Gary Paulazzo

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In the application of:

Gene SAMSON et al.

Serial No.: To Be Assigned

Filing Date: Herewith

For: HIGH PERFORMANCE BRAIDED
CATHETER

Examiner: To Be Assigned

Group Art Unit: To Be Assigned

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Box PATENT APPLICATION
Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Dear Sir:

Prior to examination on the merits, Applicant respectfully requests entry of this Preliminary Amendment for the above-captioned patent application.

AMENDMENTS

In the Specification

On page 1, line 5, between "This is a" and "continuation-in-part", please insert
--continuation of U.S. Patent Application Number 08/641,259 filed April 30, 1996, which is a--.